



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION 20160810-7a1

Date: August 11, 2016

Subject: Workforce Solutions Quality Child Care Collaborative RCA

Motioned By: Member Holder

Seconded By: Member Paver

Recommendation

The Early Childhood Council recommends that the Austin City Council approve the Workforce Solutions Quality Child Care Collaborative (QC3) Inter-local Agreement for early childhood services. Approval for execution of this agreement is scheduled as a Recommendation for Council Action on August 18th, 2016, at the Austin City Council meeting.

Description of Recommendation to Council

Funding in the amount of \$365,868 is included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department. The RCA would authorize HHSD to award, negotiate and execute a 12-month Inter-local Agreement with WorkSource Greater Austin Area Workforce Board dba Workforce Solutions for early childhood services, with four 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$365,868 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,829,340. The Early Childhood Council recommends that the Austin City Council approve this RCA.

Rationale:

High quality child care has been shown to support cognitive, social, and emotional development in young children. A recent report by E3 Alliance shows that the number of children entering kindergarten school ready has decreased from 54% to 41% in Travis County over the past year. The purpose of the Quality Child Care Collaborative (QC3) is to increase the quality of child care in the community by assisting child care facilities in achieving Texas Rising Star and/or attaining National Accreditation. Furthermore, one of the HHS policies outlined in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan is to "Improve access to quality child care services near home and workplaces". This continued investment in QC3 from the City would be consistent with the goals of Imagine Austin and would help meet a critical need in the community.

Vote 7-0-0

For: Chair Elsner, Holder, Overton, Paver, Porter, Sanchez, and Wren

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Brown, Huston, and Son

Attest: